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AGENT REPORT

ACTION

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INFO:

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RECORDS FILE

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

RADVANSKY, Anti (Baron)
Leader in Hungarian DP Politics

2. DATE SUBMITTED

18 October 1951

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

CIC Salzburg DAR-8031
Ref. No. S-11167 JACD/par

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

The following information pertaining to SUBJECT's background was submitted on 18 August 1951 to this Agent by Informant 3752-T (Evaluation: "B"), who in turn received the information verbally from (General) Sandoz ROMLOEK (Evaluation "B"), currently Salzburg representative to the Hungarian National Council and prominent Hungarian DP, and Dr. Lazlo 10TH, (Evaluation: "C") Hungarian DP and one time Informant of this Sub-Detachment. Both Sources are currently residing in St. Wilgen, Land Salzburg, Austria and have known SUBJECT for about three years. The information pertaining to SUBJECT's more recent political activities, was submitted to this Agent on 24 August 1951, by Informant 3702-T (Evaluation: "B") and Informant 3752-T (Evaluation "B"), who in turn obtained the information during a conversation with SUBJECT, at a social gathering of prominent Hungarian DPs in the home of the aforementioned Dr. Lazlo 10TH, on 22 August 1951. (Information: 3)

In Hungary, SUBJECT was General Secretary of the Hungarian National Bank, Secretary of the Protestant Church Federation, and a prominent leader of the National Conservative Party.

During February 1944, SUBJECT was ordered by the Directors of the Hungarian National Bank to leave the country and take with him 6,000,000 French Francs, to be deposited in France and Switzerland, and to be used by Hungarian refugees in a propaganda campaign against the Germans. Three men were appointed to handle this money, they were BALACS-BESSZENYI, at that time Hungarian Ambassador to Switzerland, currently a member of the Hungarian Council in the United States; Ervin VLADAR, at that time Hungarian Consul General to Geneva, Switzerland, and SUBJECT.

In January or February 1947, SUBJECT established permanent residence in Paris, France, where he now owns a large store and deals mainly in woolen goods. SUBJECT is well known

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

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SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

18 Oct 51
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WD 341

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DATE 2006

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in American circles in Paris and one of his best friends is a Mr. Taylor, one time controller of American credits in the Hungarian National Bank, and allegedly on the committee for United Europe.

SUBJECT is chief correspondent of, and owns a controlling interest in the Hungarian DP newspaper Hungaria which is printed and published in the Hungarian language, in Bad Moerishofen, near Munich, Germany.

Although SUBJECT ostensibly visits St. Gilgen each year for his summer vacation, it is well known that he spends most of his time contacting old Hungarian friends and political leaders, for discussion of political matters pertaining to the different Hungarian DP movements, and the Hungarian National Council, an organization to which SUBJECT is allegedly opposed.

Among the personalities contacted by SUBJECT during the time he was in St. Gilgen, in addition to the aforementioned sources, were the following: Dr. Kalman KOVACZY, Hungarian Journalist currently residing in Salzburg, Falk BALVANTYI, currently residing in Vienna, who is Austrian correspondent for the Journal de Geneve, a newspaper affiliated with the Swiss National Democratic Party, and published in Geneva, Switzerland, and General Bela KENCYEL, who was Hungarian Military Attache to Warsaw, prior to World War II.

Informants 3702-T and 3752-T were both present at a small party, which included SUBJECT, in the home of Dr. Lazlo TOTH on 22 August 1951. From the general conversation during the party Informants obtained the following information:

Early in the conversation SUBJECT stated that his political ideals closely corresponded to those of the old monarchist regime, and now, because of these ideals certain people in America have named him a "Fascist". SUBJECT further

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stated that he had heard from his friend Dr. Lazlo TOTH, that Oedoen ANTL, former member of the Hungarian Parliament, currently a representative of the Hungarian Jewish refugees, recently issued a pamphlet in which SUBJECT was accused of being anti-Jewish and neo-Nazi.

SUBJECT further stated that he was not worried about ANTL's accusations, but he was most concerned that a Hungarian politician like Istvan BARANKOVICS was supporting such an indictment. (Agent's Note: BARANKOVICS is the Austrian representative of the Hungarian National Council.)

BARANKOVICS, together with Ferenc NAGY, a member of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian National Council in the US, denounced SUBJECT because of an article written by him and published in the Hungaria on 3 November 1950. This article concerned Hungarian-Jewish relations. (Agent's Note: Reference is made to Exhibit "I", attached to the original of this report, which is a reproduction of the article.)

SUBJECT then claimed that the foregoing accusations had been cleared by the US Military Authorities in Germany, and that the Office of the United States High Commissioner to Germany, had proved such impeachment against SUBJECT and the Hungaria to be false. At the same time the Chairman of the US sponsored Free Europe Committee had told SUBJECT that he agreed with all points in the aforementioned article.

SUBJECT stated that the newspaper Hungaria, on his instructions, sponsored the Prisoner of War service of the Magyar Harcosok Bajtarsi Koezoessege (Comradeship Federation of Hungarian Warriors). This service planned to bring to the attention of the Free World the brutalities imposed on the Hungarian PWs by the Soviets. As part of the aforementioned plan, the Hungaria in conjunction with the MHBK, published a collection of all available material pertaining to the plight of

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the Hungarian PWs, in the form of a "Whit Book". Ferenc NAGY, in the name of the Hungarian National Council, refused financial aid to this project; and in addition, Ferenc NAGY and Istvan BARANKOVICS again accused SUBJECT of helping the "Fascist" cause.

During the conversation the name of ~~Tibor ECKHARDT~~, member of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian National Council, was mentioned. SUBJECT was asked for his opinion of the campaign being fought against ECKHARDT by other members of the Hungarian National Council, to which SUBJECT made the following reply:

The Hungarian National Council is sponsored by the Free Europe Committee, which in turn is financed by the US State Department. Tibor ECKHARDT is the War Member of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian National Council. ECKHARDT had a personal altercation with ~~Kalman SALATA~~, a member of the Hungarian National Council and a close friend of Ferenc NAGY. NAGY at that time was favored by the US State Department. When ECKHARDT joined the MHBK in the summer of 1950, SALATA and NAGY openly joined forces in an attempt to discredit the action of ECKHARDT. SALATA and NAGY asked SZABO, also a member of the Hungarian National Council, to publicly prepare specific charges against ECKHARDT. The evidence to back these charges was collected in the United States by NAGY and SALATA, and in Europe by BARANKOVICS. Evidence was collected which allegedly proved that a few leaders of the MHBK had been Nazi collaborators during World War II. In the memorandum that was prepared, ECKHARDT was accused of being a member of an organization whose leaders were former Nazis, therefore, he was supporting the neo-Nazi cause. ECKHARDT retaliated by publicizing the pro-Communist attitude of his accusers.

In the meantime, NAGY lost a number of his connections and much help from the US State Department, whereas ECKHARDT's influence grew because of his excellent connections with the

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US War Department. SUBJECT then stated that ECKHARDT would win this battle since most of the members of the US State Department, who had supported the left wing of the Hungarian National Council, had lost their control. SUBJECT then claimed that he was worried for just at this time when things could be settled, BARANKOVICS is going to the United States where he will attempt to start new trouble so that he might take over the leadership of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian National Council. SUBJECT stated, as his opinion, that Bela KARGA, the present leader, is not strong enough to hold this position.

Further in the conversation the newspaper Hungaria was discussed and the question arose as to SUBJECT's relationship with that paper and, as to who were the Austrian correspondents for that paper. To these questions SUBJECT voluntarily answered:

SUBJECT claimed that he owned half of the newspaper's current stock and that he is also chief correspondent. The editor of the paper is Zoltan MAKRA who resides in Munich, Germany. The paper is a non-political weekly and is not sponsored by any foreign government. SUBJECT further stated that he knew that a great number of "information collectors" in Austria, were using the paper's name for their own purpose. SUBJECT then stated that the only accredited journalist of the Hungaria in Austria is (Dr) Kalman KONKOLY, Hungarian DP, residing in Salzburg.

Toward the end of the conversation, SUBJECT made the following statement regarding neo-Nazi movements among the Hungarian refugees:

There does exist a neo-Nazi movement among the Hungarian refugees, and that the refugee weekly newspapers, Hidversek and UT ES CEL are supporting this movement. The leader of the neo-Nazi group in Austria is WENNI, former member of the SZALASI Nazi government in Hungary.

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FILE CHECK:

AGENT REPORT, CIC, Sub-Detachment "A", dated 20 April 1949 (Ref. No. S-4247), Subject: "Hungarian Government in Exile", describes Baron RADVANZKY as former General Secretary of the Hungarian National Bank, and Secretary General of the Protestant Church Federation.

AGENT REPORT, CIC, Sub-Detachment "A", dated 28 February 1950 (Ref. No. S-6676), Subject: "KEGLEVITCH Stefan (Istvan) Count, Possible HIS Agent", describes Dr. Kalman KONKOLY as being suspected of being in touch with the Hungarian Police.
(C-3)

WDGS REPORT, R-1900-50, describes Dr. Kalman KONKOLY as suspected of being in touch with the Hungarian Police.

AGENT REPORT, CIC, Sub-Detachment "B", dated 12 November 1947 (Ref. No. L-5692), Subject: "Hungarian Government in Exile", describes BAKICS-BESSENYEI as former Hungarian Ambassador to France.

Oedoen ANTL is mentioned as a prominent Hungarian refugee in several unnumbered CIC-Refugee Questionnaires, all dated 1 June 1950.

APPROVED:

JAMES E. MILLER
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